

NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 7, 2012



THE NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION IS AN ORGANIZATION MADE UP OF RAILROADS SERVING THE GREAT STATE OF NEW JERSEY. THE PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION IS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS AND PROBLEMS WHICH FACE SHORT LINE RAILROADS AND TO FIND MEANS OF MITIGATING PROBLEMS AND FINDING SOLUTIONS THROUGH COLLECTIVE EFFORT AND COOPERATION.

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We thank Ron Batory and Karen Rosella of Conrail for hosting the final NJSLRRA meeting of 2012 and for providing lunch and audiovisual help.

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Next Meeting: Thursday, January 17, 2013
Location: Conrail offices, 1000 Howard Blvd., Mount Laurel, NJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 3-5, 2013	CSXT Annual Short Line Workshop, St. Augustine, FL
March 14, 2013	Railroad Day on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC
April 17-19, 2013	TransAction 2013, Atlantic City, NJ
April 27-30, 2013	ASLRRA 100th Anniversary Convention, Atlanta, GA

MEETING ATTENDEES

NAME	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Kelvin MacKavanagh	MacKavanagh RR Consulting	609-704-1270
Bob Bailey	NYNJ Rail	201-434-8373
Wendy J. Buckley	STARS	267-324-4002
Dominick Critelli	NJDOT	609-530-2847
Ron Baile	Cape May Seashore Lines	609-828-9881
Taimur Shamali	NJDOT	609-530-2715
Mike Luczkiewicz	Winchester & Western RR	856-451-6400
Dan O'Connell	UTU	609-396-1994
Miki Krakauer	NJDOT	609-530-4574
Ray Bucko	SMS	856-467-4800
Joe Connelly	Specialty Transportation	443-466-8190
Leslie McCarthy	Villanova Univ.	610-519-7917
Rich Green	FRA	973-209-4316
Michael Prunty	ANA Laboratories	856-931-0011
Bob Robie	ANA Laboratories	856-931-0011
Paul W. Olson	ANA Laboratories	800-648-2625
GeorgeAnne Tutunjian	Orgo-Thermit	732-657-5781
Brian Dry	Orgo-Thermit	732-664-2325
Bob Dedow	FRA	617-901-5851
Gary A. Brennfleck	NJDOT Grants Program	609-530-2912
Charles Barker	NS	215-280-8928
Dave Luvara	Railroad Construction Co. of SJ	856-423-2220
Michael Allen	NJ Operation Lifesaver	609-929-6421
Joe Bowen	NJDOT	609-947-9409
Bob DeSando	NJDOT	609-530-5032
William G.M. Goetz	CSX	215-209-1350
James Badgley	Eastman Linnett Associates	609-314-4678
Tony Macrie	Seashore Lines	609-602-1264
John B. Fenton	NYSW RR	607-592-2816
Denise Bailey	Norfolk Southern.	215-756-1497
Jennifer Tanner	CSX	615-627-8990
Tony Giobbie	CSX	856-778-5119
Jim Turcich	Phila. Belt Line RR	215-592-7775

MEETING MINUTES

Bob Bailey, the NJSLRRA president, called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. This was followed by a safety briefing and a round of introductions.

1. Presentation by Bob Robie of ANA Laboratories. ANA does oil analysis. Among its customers are NJ TRANSIT, the North Shore Railroads, Norfolk Southern, and the Union Pacific.

Bob Robie, ANA's general manager-operations, described the mission of ANA Laboratories as to be the preferred choice for independent analysis of oil, fuel, grease and coolant/cooling water for all industries.

The company specializes in testing to ASTM Standards and customer specified specs. ANA can meet the NJSLRRA needs with full quality assurance capabilities.

The full PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

Cost for a single sample of oil is \$25.00.

2. Update on the Villanova University railway engineering program (Leslie McCarthy, Ph.D).

Dr. Leslie McCarthy had previously briefed NJSLRRA members about Villanova's railway engineering program back in 2010. Today's presentation covered the success of her efforts since that time.

Villanova now offers five undergraduate course offerings which include railway engineering as well as two graduate courses which focus completely on railway engineering. There have also been two semester-long senior design projects.

Copies of Dr. McCarthy's PowerPoint presentation and a one-page pdf summary of Railway Engineering at Villanova University are attached to these minutes.

3. Report and critique on the ASLRRA Eastern Region Meeting in Scranton, PA on October 13-16, 2012.

John McCreavy of SMS, the conference chair, was praised for the excellence of the meeting and its program. There were 276 registrants for the meeting; this total considerably exceeded last year's meeting Cleveland.

Since he had reached the term limits for ASLRRA regional vice presidents, Bob Bailey was honored at the dinner on October 15. Bob has been succeeded by Carl Belke. Carl is president of the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad but still maintains his permanent residence in New Jersey.

Jim Howarth, vice president-business development of the NYSW, was elected as a new director of the ASLRRRA's eastern region.

Congratulations, Carl and Jim!

Bob Bailey also talked about the plans for the 100th Anniversary ASLRRRA Annual Convention in Atlanta, GA on April 27-30, 2013. This meeting is expected to attract well over 2,000 people. 170 of the 205 exhibit spaces have already been sold to ASLRRRA members who exhibited in Indianapolis in 2012.

4. Status of NJDOT rail grants.

Dom Critelli said that the agreements for the eight grants which total \$6.66M have been sent out to the railroads receiving the grants. They need to provide the necessary exhibits, designs, and detailed cost estimates.

Dom told the group that a few railroads have already started using SAGE (System for Administering Grants Electronically). Railroads can get one on one training in his office. However, NJDOT cannot help the railroad to make the application. Grants will compete against one another.

Dom Critelli is not sure how much funding will be available in the next fiscal year..

5. Suggested topics for TransAction 2013.

Kel MacKavanagh said that Hurricane Sandy had delayed the scheduling of the first meeting of the TransAction Steering Committee; the group should meet in the near future.

Regarding topics, the NJ State Rail Plan and the NJ State Rail Freight Plan will be scheduled as sessions, along with an NJDOT trucking study.

Kel MacKavanagh stated that he would like to have a session entitled "What is the Future of Private Rail Sidings?" More customers are turning to transloading; siding installations are also becoming more expensive.

Kel requested that members send him suggestions for topics before the next NJSLRRA meeting. The TransAction 2013 program should be nearly finalized before our January 17, 2013 NJSLRRA meeting.

6. Nominations for 2013 Friedland Award.

Kel MacKavanagh nominated Rep. Albio Sires for the award. Rep. Sires is a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, its Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, and the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous

Materials. He has supported railroads, and is one of the representatives who always takes the time to meet with us during Railroad Day on Capitol Hill.

Other persons may be nominated for the award. The final vote will be at the NJSLRRA meeting on January 17, 2013.

7. Update on Conrail safety meetings.

A quarterly Conrail South Jersey safety meeting had been scheduled for October 29th but was postponed on account of Hurricane Sandy. It will be rescheduled (**Note: the meeting will be on November 14th at 10:30 a.m. at Pavonia Yard in Camden.**)

8. Status of federal rail-related legislation

On account of the election campaigns, nothing has been happening on legislation. Renewal of the 45G tax credit has co-sponsors from the majority of the House and Senate, but will have to be attached to an extenders bill in order to pass.

9. Update on NJ legislation affecting railroads.

S.866, Senator Loretta Weinberg's bill which would increase taxes on railroad property, is the only rail-related bill in the NJ Legislature. No further action has been taken on this bill.

10. FRA rules (Rich Green).

Rich Green updated the meeting on Hurricane Storm damage on the commuter rail lines and offered guidance on the following FRA rules:

- **Emergency notification system.**

ENS signs at highway grade crossings must be in place by September 1, 2015.

- **Conductor certification.**

All short lines should have issued certificates to conductors with a September 2012 date. Short lines may also dual certify engineers (49 CFR 218F).

- **Drug and alcohol testing.**

Not much has changed on drug and alcohol testing; audits are still being done. If a short line is operating for more than six miles over jointly operated track, the stricter regulations come into play.

- **Narrow band radio.**

These regulations go into effect in January 2013. All wideband (25 KHz) transmissions are prohibited as of January 1, 2013.

- **Bridge management program.**

Bridge management programs should have been in effect on September 13, 2012. This is a good program to have. FRA Regions 1 and 2 have a bridge management specialist.

- **Positive train control.**

PTC is on the back burner; the compliance date is still December 2015.

- **49 CFR 243.**

49 CFR 243 is coming down on training. It will affect roadway worker training as well as mechanical. It is still at the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) stage. It is a modification of 49 CFR 217. There will still be a 120-day comment period.

Rich Green also commented on the SOFA reports; the incidents have come down; there are fewer violations. Inspectors will also be looking for cell phones under the provisions of 49CFR 218F.

Rich also reminded the members to look out for close clearances on equipment; make sure the cars are in the clear.

11. Member reports.

- **Norfolk Southern.**

Charlie Barker said that NS handled 253, 814 cars to and from its short line connections during the 3rd quarter of 2012. Business is up two percent.

NS was without power at Allentown for 3-4 days as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

12. New business.

- a. Presentation of DRAFT NJ Rail Freight Plan (Miki Krakauer).**

The draft NJ Rail Freight Plan is attached to these minutes. Priorities will be the compliance with the Positive Train Control regulations and the upgrading of bridges to handle 286K gross weight on rail cars. They would also like to get rail access to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst rolling again.

Miki Krakauer said the NJDOT is trying to line this up with the NJ Strategic Rail Plan; the next step is reviewing the draft; it will be sent out to the technical advisory committees at the three metropolitan planning organizations for feedback.

- b. Hurricane Sandy, including how to obtain assistance.**

Dom Critelli said that NJDOT is trying to get an assessment of the needs of the railroad community; he will try to get agreements executed expeditiously; affected railroads do not have to worry about SAGE.

Getting wheels is the biggest problem.

Bob Bailey said that his railroad had a 6,000-lb. ship bumper on his track. Most of the NYNJR float bridge damage at Greenville was from a drill rig which had been tied up nearby.

Dominick Critelli said that he would get the FEMA contact information for the railroads. **(Note: this was done and circulated to the railroad members on November 9th.)**

c. 2013 FRA Training Seminar.

Given the success of the FRA training seminar in October 2011 in Edison, NJ which was hosted by the Raritan Central Railway, the FRA is willing to conduct another seminar in May or June 2013.

d. Introduction of Jennifer Tanner, new CSXT industrial development manager for MD, PA, and NJ (Tony Giobbie).

Tony introduced Jennifer Tanner, CSXT's new industrial development manager for MD, PA, and NJ. She is taking over this territory from Patti Byrne in Selkirk, NY.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be on **THURSDAY, January 17, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.** at the Conrail offices at 1000 Howard Blvd. in Mount Laurel, NJ.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Kel MacKavanagh
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609-704-1270

